

British Library: Visual Arts

Add.Or.2776-2783 Eight leaves from a manuscript of the 'Razmnama.' Mughal, c.1598. Purchased 1921.
Literature: Maggs Brothers, catalogue 452 (1924),
n ... (1598-1598)
(Add Or 2776-2783)

Table of Contents

Add.Or.2776–2783 Eight leaves from a manuscript of the 'Razmnama.' Mughal, c.1598. Purchased 1921. Literature: Maggs Brothers, catalogue 452 (1924), n ... (1598–1598)

Key Details.....	1
Provenance.....	1

Key Details

Collection Area	British Library: Visual Arts
Reference	Add Or 2776-2783
Creation Date	1598-1598
Extent and Format	8 items
Conditions of Use	Appointment required to view these records. Please consult Asian and African Studies Print Room staff.
Title	Add.Or.2776-2783 Eight leaves from a manuscript of the 'Razmnama.' Mughal, c.1598. Purchased 1921. Literature: Maggs Brothers, catalogue 452 (1924), n ... (1598-1598)

Scope and Content

Add.Or.2776-2783

Eight leaves from a manuscript of the 'Razmnama.'

Mughal, c.1598.

Purchased 1921.

Literature: Maggs Brothers, catalogue 452 (1924), no.252; Stchoukine (1929), pl.lxxiii; Cohn-Weiner (1938 and 1958); Ashton (1950), no.654; Meredith-Owens (1956); Welch (1959), 137-38, fig. 6; Gangoly (1961), pl.A; Binney (1973), no.25; Robinson (1976), V, nos.45-46; Beach (1979), nos.7-9.

Note: The manuscript to which these leaves belonged is dispersed, but the final volume still containing twenty-four paintings is in the British Library (Or.12076). The text was translated into Persian from the Sanskrit epic 'Mahabharata' at the order of the emperor Akbar in 1582, the work taking eighteen months to complete. The first illustrated copy of the translation is the famous Jaipur manuscript executed c.1585-86 ('see' Hendley (1884)). The colophon of the present manuscript gives the transcription date AH1007/AD1598. The scale is less ambitious than the Jaipur manuscript, suggesting that it may have been produced for a Mughal nobleman rather than for the emperor himself.

The British Library manuscript plus 125 illustrated leaves from the volume, including the present eight, was auctioned at Sotheby's, 25 October 1921, lots 203-79. Leaves are now in many collections including the Baroda Museum; Prince of Wales Museum, Bombay; Victoria and Albert Museum; British Museum; Museum of Fine Arts, Boston; Chester Beatty Library, Dublin; Royal Asiatic Society, London; Royal Ontario Museum; the Binney Collection; and the Keir Collection.

Provenance

Legal Status	Not Public Record(s)
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Add Or 2776 Nala and Damayanti bidding farewell. Miniature from the Razm-nama MS.. Artist(s): Gobind (fl.1598) (1598)

Collection Area	British Library: Visual Arts
Reference	Add Or 2776
Creation Date	1598
Extent and Format	1 Item
Conditions of Use	Appointment required to view these records. Please consult Asian and African Studies Print Room staff.
Title	Nala and Damayanti bidding farewell. Miniature from the Razm-nama MS.. Artist(s): Gobind (fl.1598) (1598)
Styles	Mughal style Mughal/Akbar style
Physical Characteristics	Medium: opaque watercolour

Scope and Content

Nala and Damayanti bidding farewell.

By Gobind.

Formerly Album 69, no.9.

Inscribed beneath in Persian characters in red: 'Gobind'; and in black: 'tasvir-i rajah nal u damanti' (a Picture of Raja Nala and Damayanti); foliated above '125' and '5' (probably the last numeral of the same number rewritten).

Gouache on biscuit-coloured paper; manuscript leaf from the 'Razmnama,' book 3, 'Vanaparvan' (Forest Book).

192 by 97 mm; page 295 by 155 mm.

Reverse: page of text written in 27 lines of 'naskhi' script within margin rules; pasted above, an English sale catalogue entry for the miniature numbered 536.

Nala and Damayanti bid farewell after Nala has ruined himself and his family by gambling. They stand facing each other on grass by a stream where a duck swims, Nala in a yellow dhoti, Damayanti in a red skirt with white 'patka'. Trees and palace buildings are in the background.

Legal Status	Not Public Record(s)
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Add Or 2777 Sal seated in a horse-drawn chariot. Miniature from the Razm-nama MS.. Artist(s): Sadiq (1598)

Collection Area	British Library: Visual Arts
Reference	Add Or 2777
Creation Date	1598
Extent and Format	1 Item
Conditions of Use	Appointment required to view these records. Please consult Asian and African Studies Print Room staff.
Title	Sal seated in a horse-drawn chariot. Miniature from the Razm-nama MS.. Artist(s): Sadiq (1598)
Styles	Mughal style Mughal/Akbar style
Physical Characteristics	Medium: opaque watercolour

Scope and Content

Sal seated in a horse-drawn chariot.

By Sadiq.

Formerly Album 69, no.10.

Inscribed beneath in Persian characters: "amal-i sadiq" (the work of Sadiq); and: 'suvar shudan-i sal bar arabah-i karn u navakhtan i bugha u nagirha' (Sal sitting in the chariot and the sounding of the trumpets and drums); numbered above '28', and in red '17' (first numeral trimmed away?).

Gouache on biscuit-coloured paper; manuscript leaf from the 'Razmnama,' book 5, 'Udyogaparvan' (Book of Preparation).

219 by 126 mm; page 304 by 167 mm.

Reverse: page of text written in 27 lines of 'naskhi' script within margin rules; numbered above '29'; pasted above is an English sale catalogue entry for this miniature and Add.Or.2778 numbered 5'37.'

Sal is holding a bow and arrow and is preceded by musicians and a warrior. Sal's chariot is driven by a charioteer dressed in pink, and drawn by a white and a black horse. The warrior on foot holds a sword vertically before him, and two empty chariots with their drivers are in the right foreground and left background. The landscape consists of a tree and a distant shrine.

Legal Status	Not Public Record(s)
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Add Or 2778 Yudhishtira talking to a supernatural figure. Miniature from the Razm-nama MS.. Artist(s): Sadiq (1598)

Collection Area	British Library: Visual Arts
Reference	Add Or 2778
Creation Date	1598
Extent and Format	1 Item
Conditions of Use	Appointment required to view these records. Please consult Asian and African Studies Print Room staff.
Title	Yudhishtira talking to a supernatural figure. Miniature from the Razm-nama MS.. Artist(s): Sadiq (1598)
Styles	Mughal style Mughal/Akbar style
Physical Characteristics	Medium: opaque watercolour

Scope and Content

Yudhishtira talking to a supernatural figure.

By Sadiq.

Formerly Album 69, no.11.

Inscribed beneath in Persian characters: 'sadiq'; and: 'mulaqat-i rajah judishtaru'... 'u zindah shudan-i har chahar baradaran' (the meeting of Raja Yudhishtira and ... and all four brothers coming to life); foliated above in red '17'5 (repeated in black).

Gouache on biscuit-coloured paper; manuscript leaf from the 'Razmnama,' book 4, 'Virataparva' (Book of King Virata), describing the adventures of the Pandavas in the 13th year of their exile while in the service of King Virata.

205 by 127 mm; page 294 by 162 mm.

Reverse: text for the end of a chapter, written in 'naskhi' script.

Yudhishtira wears a yellow 'dhoti' and red scarf. A small supernatural figure is seated above in one of two trees, and the other four Pandava brothers are sprawled unconscious on the ground at the edge of a lotus tank.

Legal Status	Not Public Record(s)
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Add Or 2779 The blind Dhritarashtra and his ministers. Miniature from the Razm-nama MS.. Artist(s): Ibrahim (fl.1598) (1598)

Collection Area	British Library: Visual Arts
Reference	Add Or 2779
Creation Date	1598
Extent and Format	1 Item
Conditions of Use	Appointment required to view these records. Please consult Asian and African Studies Print Room staff.
Title	The blind Dhritarashtra and his ministers. Miniature from the Razm-nama MS.. Artist(s): Ibrahim (fl.1598) (1598)
Styles	Mughal style Mughal/Akbar style
Physical Characteristics	Medium: opaque watercolour

Scope and Content

The blind Dhritarashtra.

By Ibrahim.

Formerly Album 69, no.12.

Inscribed beneath in Persian characters: 'ibrahim'; and: 'pursidan-i dritarasht haqiqat-i lashkar-i pandavan az sanjava' (Dhritarashtra asking Sanjaya about the true state of the Pandava army).

Gouache on biscuit-coloured paper; manuscript leaf from the 'Razmnama,' book 5, 'Udyogaparvan' (Book of Preparation), describing the preparations of both sides for war.

198 by 106 mm; page 303 by 162 mm.

Reverse: page of text written in 27 lines of 'naskhi' script with margin rules; pasted above, an English sale catalogue entry for the miniature numbered '533.'

Dhritarashtra, king of the Kauravas, is seated on a hexagonal throne with gold back, an attendant behind him, discussing with the five ministers who kneel before him on the dais the extent of the Pandava army. A doorkeeper receives a groom and horse in the foreground.

Legal Status	Not Public Record(s)
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Add Or 2780 Bhima striking Salya. Miniature from the Razm-nama MS.. Artist(s): Ibrahim Kahar (fl.1598) (1598)

Collection Area	British Library: Visual Arts
Reference	Add Or 2780
Creation Date	1598
Extent and Format	1 Item
Conditions of Use	Appointment required to view these records. Please consult Asian and African Studies Print Room staff.
Title	Bhima striking Salya. Miniature from the Razm-nama MS.. Artist(s): Ibrahim Kahar (fl.1598) (1598)
Styles	Mughal style Mughal/Akbar style
Physical Characteristics	Medium: opaque watercolour

Scope and Content

Bhima striking Salya.

By Ibrahim Kahar.

Formerly Album 69, no.13.

Inscribed beneath in Persian characters: 'ibrahim kahar'; and: 'jang kardan bhim ba jojodhan u' 'lashkar-i salya' ... (the battle between Bhima and Yuyodhan and the army of Salya ...); foliated above in red '348'; panel of 9 lines of text in top right corner of miniature.

Gouache on biscuit-coloured paper; manuscript leaf from the 'Razmnama,' book 6, 'Bhismaparvan' (Book of Bhisma).

225 by 148 mm; page 292 by 175 mm.

Reverse: page of text written in 26 lines of 'naskhi' script within margin rules; pasted beneath, an English sale catalogue entry for this miniature and Add.Or.2781 numbered '535'.

Salya, king of Multan, rides an elephant which grabs Bhima's charioteer from his seat. Bhima, the second of the Pandu princes, on foot strikes Salya with a gold mace as supporters watch from either side of the glade. (In this event Salya does not meet his death. He is finally slain by Yudhishtira, an event which takes place in book 9, 'Salyaparvan'.).

Legal Status	Not Public Record(s)
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Add Or 2781 Nakula killing Chitrasena. Miniature from the Razm-nama MS.. Artist(s): Jamal, son of Kamal al-Din (fl.1598) (1598)

Collection Area	British Library: Visual Arts
Reference	Add Or 2781
Creation Date	1598
Extent and Format	1 Item
Conditions of Use	Appointment required to view these records. Please consult Asian and African Studies Print Room staff.
Title	Nakula killing Chitrasena. Miniature from the Razm-nama MS.. Artist(s): Jamal, son of Kamal al-Din (fl.1598) (1598)
Styles	Mughal style Mughal/Akbar style
Physical Characteristics	Medium: opaque watercolour

Scope and Content

Nakula killing Chitrasena.

By Jamal, son of Kamaluddin.

Formerly Album 69, no.14.

Inscribed beneath in Persian characters: jama'l valad-i kamal al-din' (the artist's name); and: 'kushtan-i nakula chatar sen ra' (Nakula killing Chitrasena).

Gouache on biscuit-coloured paper; manuscript leaf from the 'Razmnama,' book 9, 'Salyaparvan' (Book of Salya).

247 by 145 mm; page 305 by 175 mm.

Reverse: page of text with spaced diagonal lines; foliated in red '333.'

Nakula, the fourth of the Pandu princes, has jumped onto Chitrasena's chariot, raising his sword while Chitrasena's head rolls to the ground. Nakula's chariot is in the left foreground. The supporting cavalry of each contestant watch from both sides. Rocks line the horizon.

Legal Status	Not Public Record(s)
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Add Or 2782 Brahmin women received by the Raja of Tirhut. Miniature from the Razm-nama MS.. Artist(s): Qabil (fl. 1598) (1598)

Collection Area	British Library: Visual Arts
Reference	Add Or 2782
Creation Date	1598
Extent and Format	1 Item
Conditions of Use	Appointment required to view these records. Please consult Asian and African Studies Print Room staff.
Title	Brahmin women received by the Raja of Tirhut. Miniature from the Razm-nama MS.. Artist(s): Qabil (fl. 1598) (1598)
Styles	Mughal style Mughal/Akbar style
Physical Characteristics	Medium: opaque watercolour

Scope and Content

The Brahmin woman received by the Raja of Tirhut.

By Qabil.

Formerly Album 69, no.15.

Inscribed beneath in Persian characters: 'tasvir-i rajah dharmdhvaja-i mulk-i tirhut' (a likeness of Raja Dharmdhvaja, Raja of Tirhut) - the inscription continues at some length; and: 'qabil'; foliated above in red '581'; numbered in black '414'.

Gouache on biscuit-coloured paper; manuscript leaf from the 'Razmnama' (book unidentified) [This is possibly from the 'Jaimini-Bharata', parts of which were also translated in order to extend the adventures of the sacrificial horse in book XIV].

220 by 120 mm; page 292 by 173 mm.

Reverse: page of text written in 26 lines of 'naskhi' script within margin rules; numbered above in black '415'; pasted beneath, an English sale catalogue entry for this miniature and Add.Or.2783 numbered '534'.

The Raja of Tirhut, dressed in a yellow 'dhoti,' is seated on a throne beneath a canopy suspended from a pavilion. The woman kneels on the verandah of the pavilion, and courtiers stand on the terrace. In the foreground are trees and in the background a trellis fence.

Legal Status	Not Public Record(s)
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Add Or 2783 Balarama is embraced by Yudhishthira. Miniature from the Razm-nama MS.. Artist(s): Hajji (c.1598) (1598)

Collection Area	British Library: Visual Arts
Reference	Add Or 2783
Creation Date	1598
Extent and Format	1 Item
Conditions of Use	Appointment required to view these records. Please consult Asian and African Studies Print Room staff.
Title	Balarama is embraced by Yudhishthira. Miniature from the Razm-nama MS.. Artist(s): Hajji (c.1598) (1598)
Styles	Mughal style Mughal/Akbar style
Physical Characteristics	Medium: opaque watercolour

Scope and Content

Balarama is embraced by Yudhishthira.

By Hajji.

Formerly Album 69, no.16.

Inscribed beneath in Persian characters: 'mulaqat-i balabhadar u rajah judishtar u amadan-i akrura u pardaman hamrah' ... (the meeting of Yudhishthira and Balarama together with Akrura and Pardaman); and: 'Hajji.'

Gouache on biscuit-coloured paper; manuscript leaf from the 'Razmnama,' book 2(?), 'Sabhaparvan' (Book of the Assembly).

207 by 110 mm (pavilion tower projecting into top margin); page 302 by 172 mm.

Reverse: page of text written in 27 lines of 'naskhi' script within margin rules; foliated at top in red '222'.

Balarama, dressed in a blue 'dhoti,' holds his plough over his shoulder. Yudhishthira rises from his throne which is set on a dais before a pavilion, as courtiers stand in a semi-circle and the Pandu brothers watch from the left.

Legal Status	Not Public Record(s)
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